

"The *Forrest*, in obedience to my orders, was burned by her officers before leaving Elizabeth City; the *Ellis* was captured; the *Beaufort*, *Raleigh* and *Appomattox* escaped; the *Fanny* was set on fire and blew up; and the flagship was sunk, so that of our little squadron of gun-boats, the *Ellis* (next to the *Forrest* the most indifferent one) alone fell into the hands of the enemy. Of casualties, I regret to say that Acting Midshipman Jackson and one seaman of the *Ellis*, and Seamen Ballance and Bragg, of the *Sea Bird*, were killed and one seaman of the *Ellis* and Third Assistant Engineer Henderson and four seamen of the *Sea Bird* were wounded.

"The officers exhibited great gallantry, but were not universally sustained by their men, for some of them, being raw recruits, shrank from a hand-to-hand encounter with a greatly superior force. Until better informed, I cannot particularize the conduct of the officers afloat, but will do them full justice in a future communication.

"Lieutenant-Commanding Parker, Acting Master Johnson, and Acting Midshipmen Gardner and Mallory were with me in the battery, and by cool intrepidity sustained the confidence I placed in them. To Lieutenant-Commanding Parker I am specially indebted, as well for his brave deportment in battle as for the judicious manner he conducted upward of fifty officers and men from Elizabeth City to Norfolk. Mr. Hinrick, the civilian whom we found in charge of the battery, stood by us to the last, and deserves to be gratefully remembered.

"WM. F. LYNCH,

"Flag Officer, Commanding Naval Defences of North Carolina and Virginia.

"Hon. S. R. Mallory, Secretary of the Navy, Richmond."

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COOKE, C. S. NAVY, COMMANDING  
C. S. S. ELLIS.

(*Official Records Union and Confed. Navies, Series 1, Vol. 6, Page 597.*)

"WARRENTON, N. C., 16 April, 1862.

"SIR:—In consequence of being wounded in my right arm, and unable to write, I have until now deferred making out to